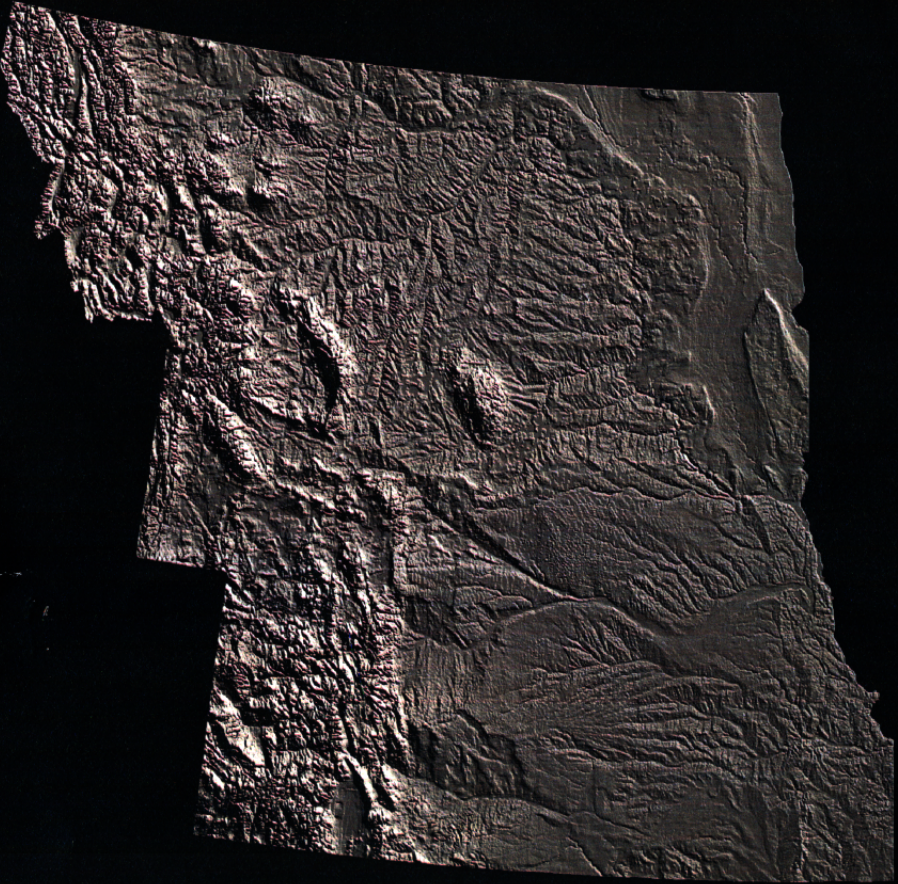


# **The Northern Plains: Conservation In Action**

**A Snapshot of 1999 Priorities & Resources**



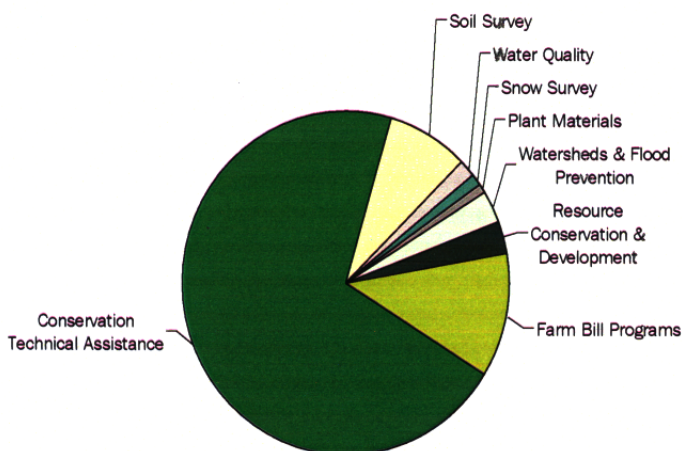
**Northern Plains Region  
Lincoln, Nebraska**

March 1999

# The Northern Programs

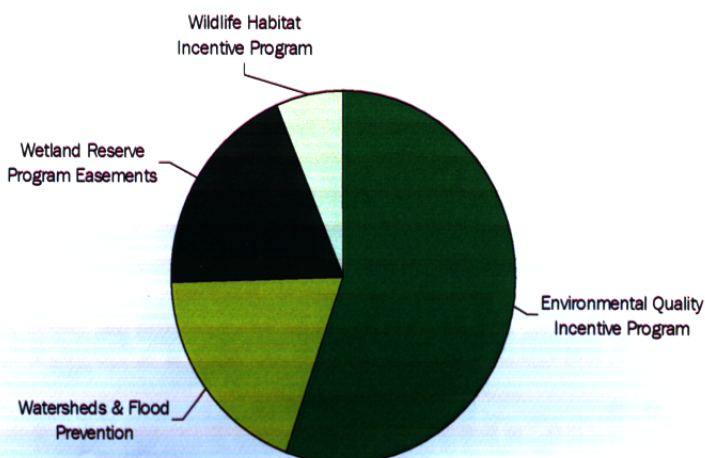
The following programs provide NRCS the ability to pursue the locally-led conservation priorities of the Region. These funds provide landowners both assistance in technical decision making, as well as voluntary, incentive-based cost-share assistance.

## 1999 Technical Assistance by Fund (millions)



**Total = \$124.4**

## 1999 Financial Assistance by Fund (millions)



**Total = \$48.4**

**\$4.89 : \$1.00**

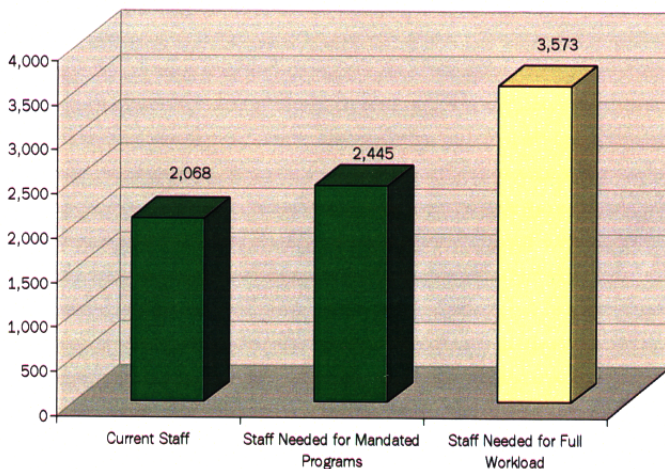
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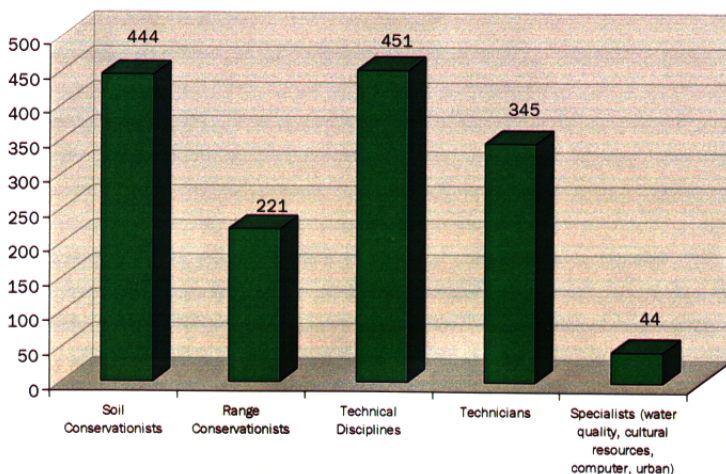
# Plains: Conservation Workload

In 1998, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Conservation Partners completed the most comprehensive workload analysis in their history. The information will help analyze conservation staffing needs for 1999 and into the future. NRCS provides conservation planning assistance to farmers and ranchers as well as servicing congressionally-mandated cost-share programs. Current staffing capacity falls short of that needed to adequately administer mandated conservation programs, and it would require nearly 75 percent additional staff years to adequately address natural resource needs in the Northern Plains states.

**Staffing Needs for Mandated Programs and Full Conservation Staffing (in staff years)**



**Additional Staff Needs for Full Workload**



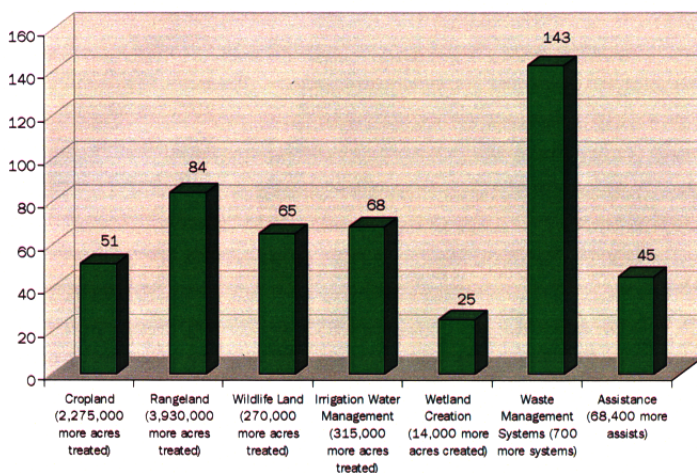
Bottom line -- every dollar invested for conservation b  
urns of \$4.89 in stimulus for the regional economy

# tion In Action

## Accomplishments

The added accomplishments that could be gained by fully staffing NRCS in the Northern Plains would have a meaningful effect on the landscape of the Region.

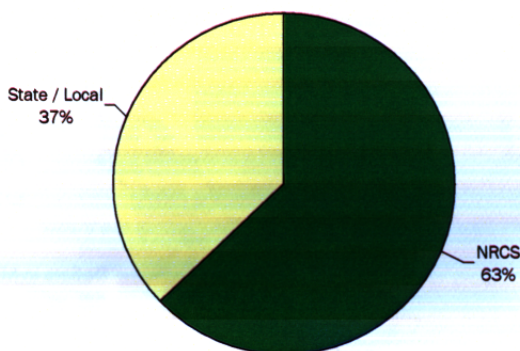
**1999 Percentage Increase In Treatment  
Under a Fully Staffed Scenario**



## Volunteers, Leverage, & Return

The Earth Team Volunteer program provides an opportunity for citizens to contribute to the NRCS mission. In 1997 and 1998, over 5000 volunteers contributed 130,000 hours in 57 percent of all NRCS offices in the Northern Plains. In addition, federal funds in the Northern Plains have been nearly matched at the state and local level.

**Conservation Contributions by NRCS and  
State & Local Partners**

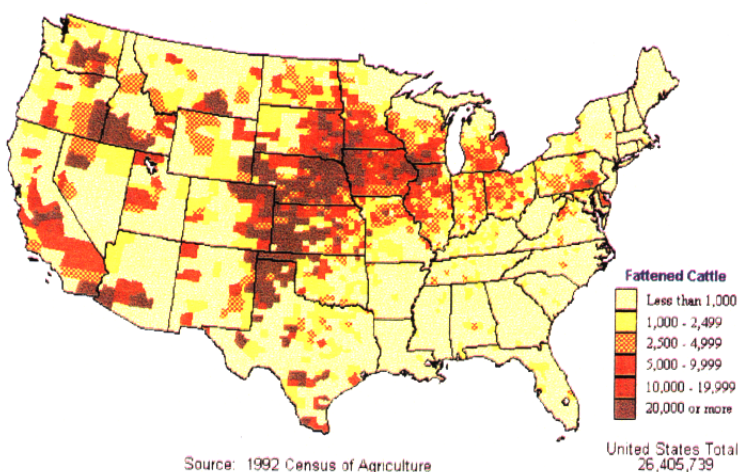


by NRCS and Earth Team volunteers  
and the people of the Northern Plains.

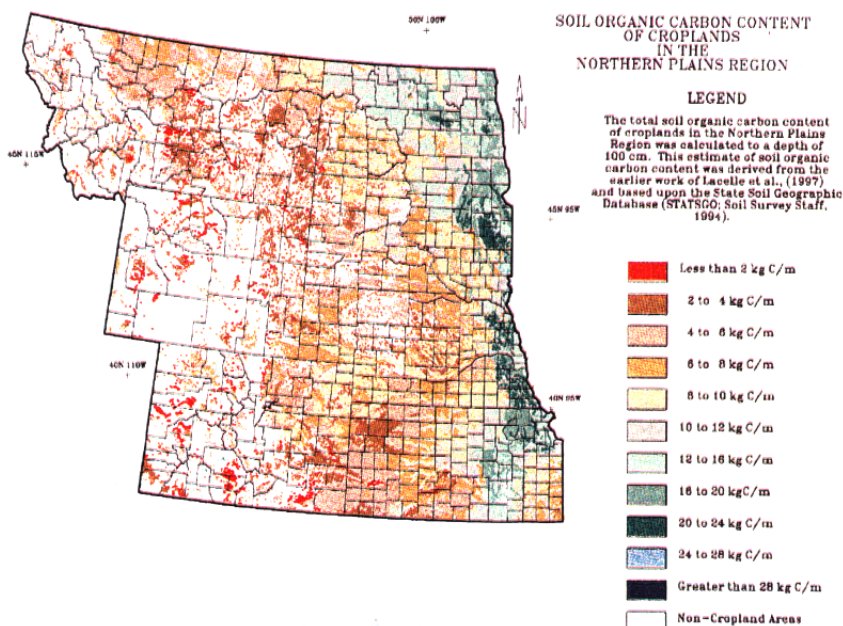


# Conservation Priorities

## Fattened Cattle Sold by County: 1992



- Significant portion of U.S. animal agriculture and nutrients



- Significant potential for carbon storage on croplands

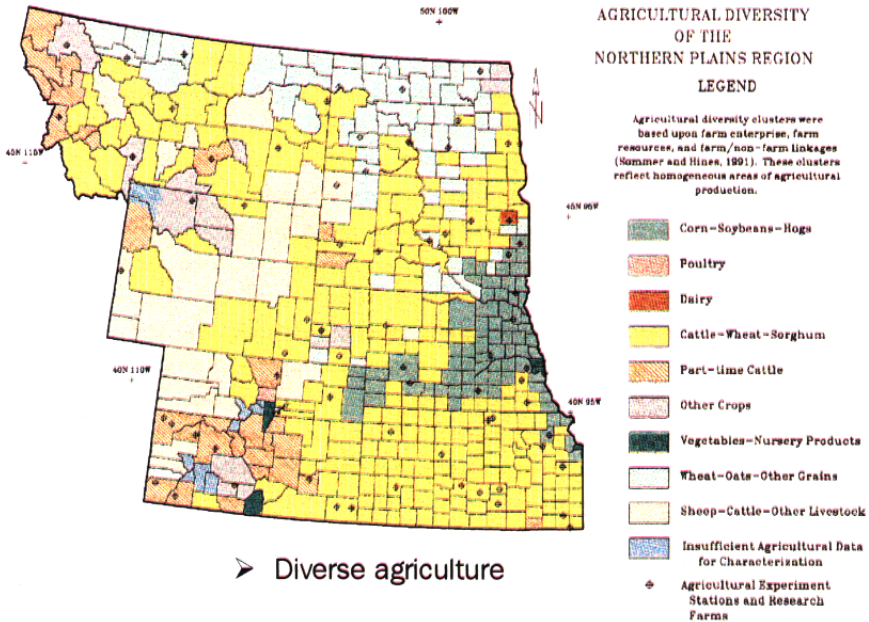
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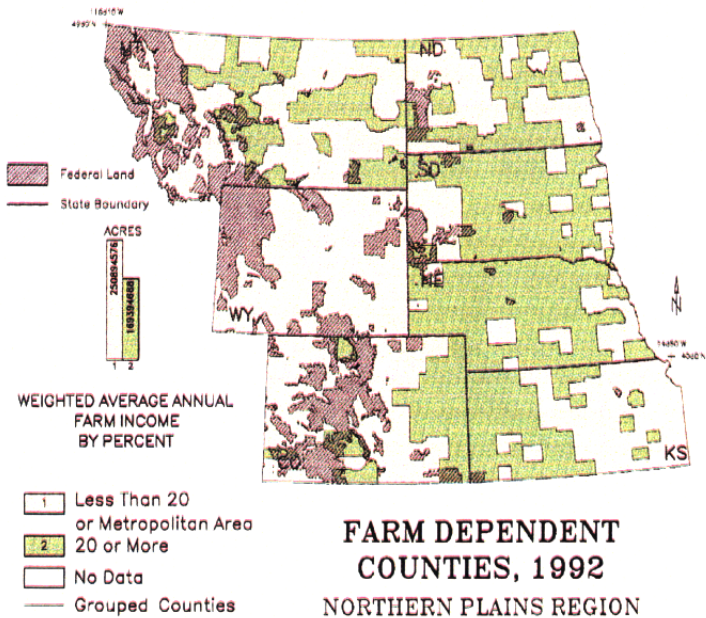
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# Conservation Priorities

The Northern Plains region consists of 420 million acres of diverse resources, which are genuinely valued by its people.



➤ High farm dependence



Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold, 1992

